

NYSE Group

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June 9, 2006

Mr. Brian Johnson
Branch Chief
Securities and Exchange Commission
Branch of Filer Support 2
Room 2531
100 F Street, NE
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Mr. Johnson:

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FINANCIAL**

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, SOVEREIGN CAPITAL TRUST V, 7.75% Capital Securities (and the Guarantee by Sovereign Bancorp, Inc. with respect thereto) and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on June 9, 2006. Tentative listing date – June 13, 2006.

Sincerely,